Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON VERIZON PETITION FOR FORBEARANCE

CC DOCKET NO. 01-338

COMMENTS DUE: September 3, 2002 REPLY COMMENTS DUE: September 18, 2002

On July 29, 2002, the Verizon telephone companies (Verizon) filed a petition for forbearance under section 10(c) of the Communications Act, as amended. In the petition, Verizon asks the Commission to forbear from applying items four through six and ten of the section 271 competitive checklist should the Commission determine that the corresponding elements no longer need to be unbundled under section 251(d)(2).

The Bureau seeks comment on Verizon's Petition for Forbearance. Interested parties may file, by paper or electronically, comments concerning this matter on or before September 3, 2002 and reply comments on or before September 18, 2002. All filings must reference CC **Docket No. 01-338.** If filing paper copies, send an original and seven (7) copies to the Commission Secretary, Marlene H. Dortch, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room TW-B204, Washington, DC 20554 and two copies to Janice M. Myles, Competition Policy Division, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room 5-C327, Washington, DC 20554. A courtesy copy should also be addressed to Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-B402, Washington, DC, 20554, telephone 202-863-2893, facsimile 202-863-2898, or via e-mail qualexint@aol.com. The Commission's contractor, Vistronix, Inc., will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 110, Washington, D.C. 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class mail, Express Mail, and Priority Mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20554. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

Comments may also be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System ("ECFS"). Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to: http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html. If using this method, please reference the Docket number, CC Docket No. 01-338, in the Proceeding block. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, postal service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number(s). Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, including "get formvour e-mail address>" in the body of the message. A sample form and directions will be sent in reply. After filing your comments electronically, please send an e-mail to Janice M. Myles, imyles@fcc.gov, indicating that comments have been filed.

This is a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding for purposes of the Commission's *ex parte* rules.¹ As a "permit but disclose" proceeding, *ex parte* presentations will be governed by the procedures set forth in section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules applicable to non-restricted proceedings.² Parties making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must contain a summary of the substance of the presentation and not merely a listing of the subjects discussed. More than a one or two sentence description of the views and arguments presented is generally required.³ Other rules pertaining to oral and written presentations are set forth in section 1.1206(b) as well.

A copy of the petition will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-A257, Washington, DC, 20554. A copy of the petition may also be found by searching the ECFS at http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html (insert 01-338 into the Proceeding block).

For further information contact Janice M. Myles, jmyles@fcc.gov, Jeremy Miller or Robert Tanner, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418-1580.

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See generally 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 - 1.1216.

² 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206.

³ 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(2).